Agenda Item: 6b

Meeting Date: March 15-16, 2012

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## **Delta Levees Program**

Summary: The California Department of Water Resources oversees and implements several programs and efforts concerning flood management policy affecting the Delta. These programs include those relating to funding maintenance and improvements of Delta levees. These efforts have broad policy implications for the Delta region and the development of the Delta Plan.

## **Background**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is currently developing or implementing several flood management related programs which have broad implications for the Delta region. The draft Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP) has recently been released, and will be considered for adoption in July 2012. This draft plan sets forth many objectives for flood management projects which may have implications for the Delta. However, the majority of Delta levees are not considered within the CVFPP, and are addressed by other DWR programs.

The maintenance and improvement of Delta levees is primarily directed and conducted by local Levee Maintaining Agencies (LMA's), with funding provided on a cost-share basis between State and local parties. The State, through DWR's Delta Levee Subventions and Delta Levee Special Projects Programs, provides State matching funding for Delta levee projects, in which the State share can reach up to 85% of project costs. Over \$200 million of State taxpayer funding has been spent on Delta levees since the early 1970's. Cost share ratios for levee work vary depending on program and project type.

DWR also oversees data collection efforts in order to compile information highlighting Delta levees conditions. Recently, DWR assembled Delta levees conditions maps which indicated compliance with two basic levee guidance standards; (1) HMP and (2) PL84-99. These maps included Delta-wide views as well as individual island and tract maps highlighting levee conditions to the extent known, based on recent aerial topographic surveys and ground inspections. These maps have been posted on the Delta Stewardship Council's website for public access.

## **List of Attachments**

Attachment 1: Delta-Wide HMP Compliance Map Attachment 2: Delta-Wide PL84-99 Compliance Map

Attachment 3: Individual Island Maps

## Contact

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